

### Remarks

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the relationship that must exist between the body and bow member of the instant tension board to enable it to function for its intended purpose. The features recited find clear support in the description, particularly the drawing figures. Dependent Claims 5, 6, 7 and 12 have been amended to maintain consistency with Claim 1.

The subject matter of Claim 9-14 has been acknowledged by the Examiner to be patentable over the prior art. In accordance with that acknowledgement, Claim 9 is now presented in independent form.

During interviews with the Examiners, it was indicated that the patentability of claims directed to the instant tension board in combination with a cutting machine may be acknowledged. New Claim 18 has therefore been presented to expressly define that combination.

In view of the foregoing, the reintroduction of (at least) Claims 7 and 8 for examination, and passage of the application to allowance with all claims presently presented, are believed to be clearly in order. Should the Examiner disagree however, and feel that further modifications are necessary to place the application into condi-

tion for allowance, he is urged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any additional changes that might be suggested.

Respectfully submitted,  
MARCEL CODERRE

By 

Ira S. Dorman  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 24,469  
Tel. (860) 528-0772

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, IRA S. DORMAN, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed as set forth on the first page hereof, on August 3, 2005.

